
**RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF PICKERING**

Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health
for the Year
1950

W. R. M. COUPER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

INCLUDING THE REPORT
of the

Sanitary Inspector
P. PICKERING, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

PICKERING RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

To the Chairman and Members
of the Pickering Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I have much pleasure in presenting my report for the
year ended 31st December, 1950.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area in Acres	74,865
Estimated Population	5,056
No. of Inhabited Houses	1,668
Rateable Value	£16,619
Product of Penny Rate	£67

VITAL STATISTICS

Births.			
	Male	Female	Total
Live Births	38	31	69
Legitimate	33	29	62
Illegitimate	5	2	7
Stillbirths	2	—	2
Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	13.6		
Illegitimate Rate (percentage of total births)	10.1%		
Stillbirth Rate (per 1,000 population)	0.40		

INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	4	1	5
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total	4	1	5

Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 related Live Births) = 72.5

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age.

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	2	—	2
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 related Live Births)	= 29.0		

TABLE SHOWING CAUSES OF DEATH

Cause	Male	Female	Total
Syphilitic Diseases	1	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm — stomach	1	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm — breast	—	2	2
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	2	2	4
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	5	5	10
Coronary Disease, Angina	10	5	15
Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	1	—	1
Other Heart Diseases	3	11	14
Other Circulatory Diseases	2	1	3
Pneumonia	1	—	1
Bronchitis	1	1	2
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	—	1	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	1	—	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...	—	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	—	1	1
Congenital Malformations	2	—	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	4	8
All other accidents	1	—	1
Total Deaths All Causes	35	34	69
Death Rate (per 1,000 estimated population)	= 13.6		

Maternal Mortality.

No deaths attributable to pregnancy, childbirth or abortion occurred during the year.

Comparative Table of Birth and Death Rates during 1950.

	Rates per 1,000 population.			Infant Mortality Rate
	Live Birth Rate	Still Birth Rate	Death Rate	
England & Wales	15.8	0.37	11.6	29.8
Pickering R.D. ...	13.6	0.40	13.6	72.5

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following cases of infectious disease were notified during the year :—

Measles	4
Scarlet Fever	7

Tuberculosis.

One new case (a female) of Pulmonary Tuberculosis was notified during the year.

There were no deaths from Tuberculosis.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

(i) Public Health Officers of the Authority.

Medical Officer of Health : W. R. M. Couper.
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector : P. Pickering, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

(ii) Local Health Services under Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

The North Riding County Council administers these services through the Local Health Sub-Committee on which you are represented by a Member of your Public Health Committee. The services provided are the care of expectant and nursing mothers and young children, domiciliary midwifery, health visiting, home nursing, ambulance, domestic help, care and after care and arrangements for immunisation and vaccination.

Two nurse/midwives are resident in the Rural District of Pickering, one being at Lockton and the other at Sinnington.

The main ambulance station for the Ryeda'e area is situated in Malton.

(iii) Hospitals.

General Medical and surgical cases are admitted to Hospitals at Malton, Scarborough, York and Leeds. Maternity cases are admitted, when necessary, to hospitals at Scarborough and Westow.

(iv) Laboratory facilities.

Samples for bacteriological examination are sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Hull.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT JANUARY, 1951.

To the Chairman and Members
of the Pickering Rural District Council.

I have the honour to submit to you for approval a report on the work carried out during the year 1951.

This work is referred to under various sections of the report but a few items call for special reference.

During the year a refuse collection vehicle was purchased and a scheme instituted to serve the district by direct labour. This vehicle has given good service and has been considerable help indirectly to other services. The employment of additional labour has made it possible to carry out work throughout the area with direct supervision.

A great deal of attention and work to water supplies was done during the year. Reserve tanks of 5,000 gallons capacity were erected in the villages of Sinnington and Kirbymisperton and these have proved considerable benefit.

I wish to take the opportunity of thanking all members and Officials for their close co-operation and keen interest shown during the course of my duties.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,
P. PICKERING,
Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supplies. A considerable amount of time and expense was devoted to water supplies during the year. There is still a great amount of work to do especially in the area where no piped supplies exist or are inadequate to cope with the ever increasing demands for water. Improvement has been made to the adequacy of water in the villages of Thornton Dale, Sinnington, and Kirbymisperton.

Work on the New Scheme to serve Newton was carried out during the year but owing to weather conditions and labour problems it was not completed. An extension of the main at Barugh was carried down Wandales Lane to serve Agricultural needs for this particular area.

Twenty-three samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination, 10 of these were found to be satisfactory and 13 unsatisfactory. The unsatisfactory samples were accounted for as follows :-

Proposed private supplies to be abandoned if not satisfactory	3
Public supply (i.e.) village pump, supply abandoned	1
Local Authority Supplies remedied by cleansing of reservoirs, chlorination, and washing out of pipes	6

Sewerage. There is no sewerage scheme in control of the Local Authority in the Area. This gives rise to considerable nuisance particularly in the parish of Thornton Dale where the visiting population is large. Every year as more water is made available to villages the need for sewage disposal becomes more apparent. There is evidence in practically every village that water courses are being fouled and have become open sewers.

Refuse Collection. A scheme has been commenced within the area whereby refuse is collected regularly at three weekly intervals. This has been of considerable benefit to the small householder with limited land. The village of Thornton Dale still receives a fortnightly collection. The means of disposal is by crude tipping. These tips are not maintained in a proper condition due to the limited amount of labour. Extra attention would involve extra expense on this service. There is also the fact to take into consideration that these tips do not belong to the Council.

Housing. During the period considerable time was devoted to the erection of new houses—no Clerk of Works being employed due to distances between sites. Eight new houses were completed by the Local Authority and two by private enterprise. Nineteen building licences were issued, the majority of the work being renovations or conversions of old property within the villages to good housing standards.

There was only one application for Improvements Grant under the Housing Act, 1949, but this was not proceeded with.

Where the average dwelling house is not owned by the occupier it becomes increasingly difficult to get repairs executed. This, I feel sure, is due to high building costs in relation to rent chargeable.

Moveable Dwellings.

Three moveable Dwellings have been licensed during the year under the Public Health Act, 1936, Section 269.

Factories.

Of the 14 factories on the register 12 were inspected and where defects were found they were remedied.

Meat and Food.

There is no Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse within the area. There has been no outbreaks of food poisoning during the year.

Ice Cream.

There are four premises registered for the sale and storage of ice cream in the area. Eight samples were taken during the year, six proved to be satisfactory and two unsatisfactory.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Five new licences under section 3 have been issued during the year.

Details of Visits.

Nuisances Inspected	10
Nuisances Found	9
Nuisances Abated	6
Notices Served	3
Tents, Vans and Sheds	3
Drainage	48
Sewerage	88
Water Supplies	319
Water Samples	23
Conversions	1
Food inspection and premises	34
Shops Act	7
Housing Inspections	51
Housing Visits	85
Housing Sites	96
Works in Progress (private)	3
Refuse Collection	16
Refuse Disposal	10
Buildings and Licences	63
Sanitary Conveniences	4
Ice Cream	12
Planning	35
Rodent Control	17
Dirty Houses	7
Infectious Diseases	4
Factories	2
Miscellaneous	55
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Total Visits ...	1,011
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